

**I CLAIM AS MY INVENTION:**

1. A mail-processing device comprising:
  - a microprocessor;
  - a keyboard with operating elements connected to said microprocessor for entering a designation of a service product into said microprocessor;
  - a working memory accessible by said microprocessor containing mail-item-related data values;
  - a programmable memory and a program memory accessible by said microprocessor;
- in at least one of said program memory and said programmable memory, a first memory area containing a program for evaluating said mail-item-related data values stored in the working memory to cause said mail-item-related data values to be permanently or temporarily stored, a second memory area containing a first table for indices respectively assigned to different product codes, said product codes being ascendingly or consecutively stored in said table in a column and said table having a second column, in parallel with said first column, containing indices for different product descriptions, and a third memory range for storage of a further table for said product descriptions respectively assigned to said indices in said second column; and
- said microprocessor being programmed by said program for evaluating the mail-item-related data values stored in the working memory by accessing said table containing said first and second columns to automatically determine a product code and a product description for

said service product, and to supply as an output a text for said product description for generating a printout thereof.

2. A mail-processing device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said microprocessor is programmed by said program to determine the index for the product code and to locate the index in said further table for said product description.

3. A mail-processing device as claimed in claim 1 comprising, in at least one of said program memory and said programmable memory, a fourth memory area for storage of an additional further table containing text strings assigned to the respective indices, and wherein said microprocessor is programmed by said program to determine a text string from said additional further table dependent on shipping parameters for said service product and to supply said text strings in said output.

4. A mail-processing device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said program memory is a permanent memory and wherein said programmable memory is a semi-permanent memory.